

CLAIMS

1. Method for managing network resources for wireless communication, comprising steps being
5 automatically executed by a network control unit:
 - identifying availability of different communication networks for a communication device,
 - notifying the communication device of a recommendation of identified communication networks.
- 10 2. Method according to claim 1, comprising
 - determining a at least rough location of the communication device, and
 - identifying communication networks covering the device's location.
3. Method according to claim 1 or claim 2, comprising
15 identifying communication networks covering the device's location according to a look-up table.
4. Method according to one of the preceding claims, comprising
identifying access capability of the communication device to other communication networks.
- 20 5. Method according to claims 2 or 3, and claim 4, comprising
identifying communication networks covering the device's location and being accessible for the communication device.
6. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
25 wherein communication networks are recommended according to communication costs.
7. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein communication networks are recommended according to a current load.
- 30 8. Method according to one of the preceding claims,

wherein communication networks are recommended according to bandwidth properties.

9. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein communication networks are recommended according to a customer profile.

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10. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein a hand over process for establishing a communication channel on a recommended
communication network is started after the communication device is notified.

10 11. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein the identification of available networks is triggered by a network control unit.

12. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein the identification of available networks is triggered periodically.

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13. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein the identification of available networks is triggered when a physical movement of the
communication device is detected.

20 14. Method according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein the identification of available networks is triggered by a capacity shortage on at least one
of the networks.

15. Computer program element comprising computer program code which, when loaded in a
25 processor unit of an electronic device, configures the processor unit to perform a method as
claimed in any one of the preceding claims.

16. Communication network control unit,
being configured for executing a method according to one of the claims 1 to 14.

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17. Method for establishing a channel for wireless communication, comprising

- receiving a notification from a network control unit, the notification indicating a recommendation of identified available communication networks for establishing the communication channel,
- 5 • initiating access to a recommended communication network for establishing the communication channel in response to the notification.

18. Method according to claim 17, comprising

automatically initiating access to the communication network in response to the notification.

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19. Method according to claim 17, comprising

initiating access to the communication network in response to the notification and in response to a user confirmation.

15 20. Method according to one of the preceding claims 17 to 19, comprising

selecting one preferred communication network out of several recommended networks indicated in the notification before initiating access to this network.

21. Method according to one of the preceding claims 17 to 20, comprising

20 deriving access data from an information block of the notification and supporting access to the communication network with the access data derived.

22. Computer program element comprising computer program code which, when loaded in a processor unit of a communication device, configures the processor unit to perform a method as

25 claimed in any one of the preceding claims.

23. Electronic communication device, comprising

- access units for different wireless networks, and

- a control unit for having the corresponding access unit establish a communication channel on a particular one of the networks in response to a notification from a network control unit recommending this network.

5 24. Method for establishing a channel for wireless communication, comprising steps performed by a network control unit:

- identifying availability of different communication networks for a communication device, and
- notifying the communication device of a recommendation of identified communication networks,

10 comprising steps performed by the communication device:

- receiving the notification, and
- initiating access to a recommended communication network for establishing the communication channel in response to the notification.

15 25. Communication system, comprising

- a first network for wireless communication,
- a second network for wireless communication,
- a communication device being capable of accessing at least the first and the second network,
- a network control unit being configured for:

20 • identifying availability of communication networks for the communication device,
 • notifying the communication device of a recommendation of identified communication networks,

- the communication device comprising a control unit for initiating access to a recommended network for establishing a communication channel in response to the notification.